

NPIC/OS-96/67
13 June 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR: See Distribution

SUBJECT : Security Procedures for Handling BLACK SHIELD
Photography

1. A new reconnaissance collection program has been initiated in Southeast Asia known as BLACK SHIELD to cover North Vietnam (DRV). The security procedures for handling, titling and classification of the resulting end products will be as follows:

a. The film resulting from BLACK SHIELD operations over the DRV, and reports of information derived from that film will be classified SECRET and identified with the acronym "BX".^{1/} Coverage resulting from actual overflight of Burma, Thailand, and Cambodia will be classified SECRET.

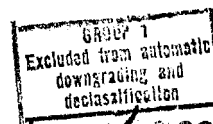
b. Cable dissemination of BLACK SHIELD information on the DRV will be identical to that for TROJAN HORSE Missions. Reports, briefing boards, viewgraphs and briefing board notes will be accorded normal SECRET dissemination as used for other Southeast Asia missions over North Vietnam.

c. Cable dissemination of information on Thailand, Burma, and Cambodia will also be classified SECRET. Reports, briefing boards, viewgraphs and briefing board notes likewise will be classified SECRET.

d. If evidence of offensive missiles or related equipment is detected in BLACK SHIELD photography the information will be reported immediately by electrical means. Such messages will be marked "This is a [] message" and classified SECRET LIMITED DISSEMINATION. Reports marked [] will be transmitted to the following addressees only: CIA (For DCI), DIA (DIRECTOR); STATE (INR); NSA (DIRECTOR); JCS (CHAIRMAN); WHITE HOUSE (SITUATION ROOM); ACSI, ARMY; ACNO (I) NAVY; ACSI AF; AC OF S, G-2 MARINE CORPS; CINCSAC; CINCPAC; COMUSMACV; CINCPACFLT; CINCPACAF; CINCUSARPAC; and NPIC. The decision on timing of public releases of any information revealing the presence of offensive missiles is reserved for higher authority. In addition, internal dissemination must be limited on a strict-need-to-know basis.

^{1/} First two missions identified with "BSX".

~~SECRET~~



SECRET

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e. Camera manuals are available at the SECRET level. The frame ephemeris will also be classified SECRET. A copy produced by the computer will be bound, controlled and disseminated to the recipients of the film, marked with the following statement on the cover:

"The use of this publication is limited to personnel who require the information for photo interpretation and mensuration purposes. Dissemination should be made only on a strict MUST-KNOW basis for such purposes to U. S. personnel who possess a minimum of SECRET security clearance."

2. Access to SECRET BLACK SHIELD film products will not be denied to integrated foreign personnel but should not be passed to them unless it is essential. ~~Access to~~ BLACK SHIELD photography and products will not be released to any foreign government unless authorized by the USIB.

3. Should there be any questions pertaining to the proper handling of these materials please contact me [redacted]

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[redacted]
Assistant for Operations, NPIC

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SECRET

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